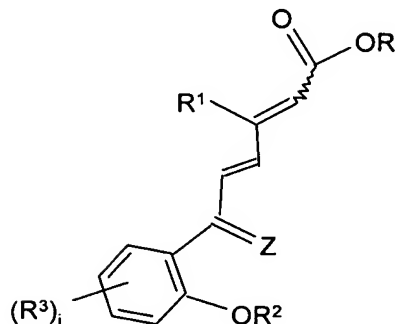


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1- (Original) Compound of the formula I :



in which

R¹ represents an optionally substituted saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic carbocyclic group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic heterocyclic group;

R² represents an optionally halogenated saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic carbocyclic group; a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group which is substituted by an optionally substituted aromatic carbocyclic group; or a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group which is substituted by a saturated and/or aromatic heterocyclic group;

the radicals R³ represent, independently of each other, a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group, which is optionally halogenated and/or optionally interrupted by one or more O or S atoms; a halogen atom; a nitro group; cyano; a (C₆-C₁₀)aryloxy group, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; a (C₆-C₁₀)arylthio group, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C₁-C₁₀)alkylsulfonyl; (C₆-C₁₀)arylsulfonyl, in which aryl is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; 5- to 7-membered heteroaryl which comprises one or more hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C₆-C₁₀)aryloxycarbonyl; (C₆-C₁₀)aryl-carbonylamino; (C₁-C₁₀)alkoxycarbonyl; (C₁-C₁₀)alkylcarbonylamino; di(C₁-C₁₀)alkylamino; (C₆-C₁₀)aryl(C₁-C₁₀)alkyl, in which aryl is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C₁-C₁₀)alkylcarbonyl; or (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl(C₁-C₁₀)alkyl, in which cycloalkyl is optionally

substituted by one or more radicals G°;

G° is chosen from halogen; optionally halogenated alkoxy; or optionally halogenated alkyl;

R represents a hydrogen atom; a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an amino group, which is optionally substituted by one or two saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based groups; or an optionally substituted aromatic carbocyclic group;

Z represents O; CHR⁴ in which R⁴ takes any of the meanings given above for R;

i represents the integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

and also the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2- (Original) Compound according to Claim 1 of the formula I in which R represents H or (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl; R¹ represents optionally halogenated (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl or optionally substituted (C₆-C₁₀)aryl; R² represents optionally halogenated (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl; R³ represents optionally halogenated (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl; optionally halogenated (C₁-C₁₀)alkoxy; or a halogen atom;
Z represents O or CHR⁴ in which R⁴ is H or (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl.

3- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 ~~either of Claims 1 and 2~~ of the formula I in which R¹ represents -CH₃ or -phenyl.

4- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ of the formula I in which Z represents O.

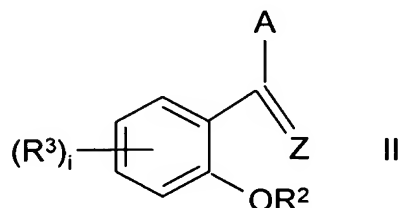
5- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ of the formula I in which i = 1 and R³ located in position 5 of the phenyl nucleus represents (C₁-C₆)alkyl; (C₁-C₆)alkoxy; or a halogen atom.

6- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ of the formula I in which R² represents (C₁-C₆)alkyl.

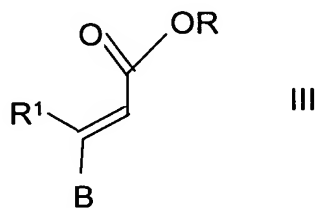
7- (Original) Compound according to Claim 1 of the formula I chosen from the following compounds:

- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-ethylphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-ethylphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-phenylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-benzyloxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-propylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-propylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- (E,E)-6-(2-hydroxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl 6-(2-isobutoxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate; and
- 6-(2-isobutoxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid.

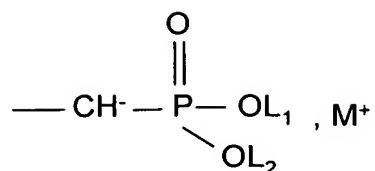
8- (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, which comprises the reaction of a compound of the formula II:



in which i , R^3 , R^2 and Z are as defined above for formula I in Claim 1, with a compound of the formula III:



in which R^1 and R are as defined, except that R does not represent a hydrogen atom for formula I in Claim 1, and either A or B represents $-CHO$, the other representing:



in which L₁ and L₂ are (C₁-C₆)alkyl and M⁺ represents a monovalent cation.

9- (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

10- (Currently Amended) Use of a compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition that can be used for the treatment and prevention of dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes.